

trying to bring this amendment at this time is to show to the body that there is still a very serious problem in Douglas County with the need for an additional third juvenile court judge, as well as a second judge in Lancaster County. LB 162 is currently on General File, and with all likelihood, it will probably be considered next year, but the need for the third judge is still there. We still have a problem in that county with an increased case load for these judges, and the only individuals that really suffer with that are the children because the child is in a neglect or abused situation, and it is on an ongoing basis, and it just takes that much longer before the court makes the determination whether that child should leave the home, and then they are kept in that home for the time until appears before them. We did, this year we did increase, I believe, the Foster Care Review Board an additional \$15,000 and we spend over \$250,000 on the Foster Care Review Board. I did have an amendment to strike out the Foster Care Review Board on the mainline budget bill, but it looked like there would be very little chance or likelihood of that bill or that amendment to the budget bill being adopted. I do feel that this is still the best way to take care of serious problems with children is to have quick determination of how those children should be treated, because when they are in a foster home, when they are in a neglect or abused home, then there should be someone there to make a decision, and when you don't have enough people to make that decision, the children suffer. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chizek.

SENATOR CHIZEK: A question of Senator Abboud.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Abboud, would you respond?

SENATOR ABBODD: Yes.

SENATOR CHIZEK: What is the cost of this, Senator Abboud?

SENATOR ABBODD: I believe two judges, well, it would have been taken care if we had taken money from the Foster Care Review Board, Senator Chizek. I don't have a fiscal note right in front of me with the two judges.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Well wouldn't it be approximately the same as on your bill that the Judiciary put out?

SENATOR ABBODD: No, it would be less because we included an